(e) and (f) Malnutrition among children is a contributory factor in deaths among children. Steps currently undertaken by the Government to control malnutrition among children are:—

(i) Exclusive breastfeeding for first six months of life.

(ii) Complementary feeding initiated from 6 months of age.

(iii) Iron folic acid supplementation.

(iv) Vitamin A supplementation.

(v) Mid Day Meal Programme.

(vi) Supplementary nutrition as under Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDSS).

Conversion of medical colleges into hospitals

1678. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to connect all medical colleges situated in the capitals of the States in the country in the shape of Safdarjung Hospital and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital of Delhi with the foreign aid to avoid the inconvenience caused to the patients of all the States; and

(b) if so, by when and if not, the specific reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. At present, there is no such proposal with the Government.

TB Control Programme in Karnataka

1679. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts covered under Revised National TB Control Programme in Karnataka;

(b) the percentage of reduction in the death rate in Karnataka after the implementation of this programme;

(c) the number of patients covered under RNTCP in Karnataka during 2003-04 and 2004-05 (by the end of October, 2004); and

(d) whether all the districts in Karnataka have been covered under the Revised National TB Control Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) All the 28 districts in Karnataka have been covered under Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP).

(b) The Project districts in Karnataka have reported cure rate of more than 80% which means that more than 8 out of every 10 patients put on treatment under the revised strategy are being successfully cured as against below 4 in the earlier Programme. The treatment success rate under this Programme has risen more than 3 time from 25% to 83% and TB death rate has been cut around 6 fold from 29% to less than 6%.

(c) The number of patients initiated on treatment under RNTCP in Karnataka during 2003-04 and 2004-05 (till October, 2004) are as under:—

Year	No. of patients
2003-04	50797
2004-05 (till Oct. 04)	47869

(d) Yes, Sir.

Beneficiaries of CGHS in Karnataka

1680. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of allopathic dispensaries, polyclinics, laboratories, dental and Indian system of medicine and homoeopathy units under Central Government Health Scheme functioning in Karnataka;

(b) total number of beneficiaries of this scheme in Karnataka;

(c) number of private hospitals recognised under CGHS in Bangalore and other places of Karnataka;